



Health of the homeless and climate change

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Abstract:

The homeless are amongst the most vulnerable groups in developed regions, suffering from high rates of poorly controlled chronic disease, smoking, respiratory conditions, and mental illness, all of which render them vulnerable to new and resurgent disease processes associated with climate change. To date, there have been no papers reviewing the impacts of climate change on the homeless population. This paper provides a framework for understanding the nature of such an impact. We review four pathways: increased heat waves, increased air pollution, increased severity of floods and storms, and the changing distribution of West Nile Virus. We emphasize the need for further debate and research in this field.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2704276>

Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker, Researcher

Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Temperature

Air Pollution: Ozone, Particulate Matter, Other Air Pollution

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Air Pollution (other): CO

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding, Other Extreme Event

Extreme Weather Event (other): Storms

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature: 

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location: 

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress

Infectious Disease: General Infectious Disease, Vectorborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: West Nile Virus

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Stress Disorder, Other Mental Disorder

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

Other Vulnerable Population: Homeless

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content